Rome Scala Dante
24 april 1898

My dear Maria

Your illness grieved me much, but it is not dangerous tho' painful & you must have suffered very much - fortunate that you were with that good Emma or you might have bled to death

This is the first time that I have really been able to write well & to-day I am much improved - yesterday I went out for the 3.d time with the good Doctor & the walk I did not suffer - as to down stairs I did rather well, for my illness & 84, but the Doctor watches me lest I

I make another tumble, which I see would be like to finish me — so with the aid of my stick I am very carefull how I go

I have prayed that I might be able to finish my picture of the marriage of Cana & I think judging from my writing that may be soon

Both my weakness accords with my care & patience & the Doctor tells assures me that I shall soon be stronger — I sleep well

Poor Arthur is laid up with sciatica the worst kind of Rheumatism, but he is well John Ruskin who is recovering, but Arthur suffers from the Lake, the damp

you dont say a word about Caroline?
her situation is very painfull

Your letter was very good, full of news
a little blotted but that's nothing

I'm puzzled about going out for the
good Doctor cannot always go & he will
not let me go alone, but my room is so large
that I get on very well

Our weather now is divine & spring &
excellent for me

During my illness I received great
attention, many Fds came continually to
visit me

My love to poor Tom
your loving brother Joe

Miss Yardley has just been to visit me